

Funding the Future

Article URL

Published: January 12, 2026, 5:32 pm

That was some weekend. I doubt the turmoil has ended yet. But there are fallouts, and those are what I am interested in.

One such fallout is with regard to parliamentary democracy.

Johnson and his acolytes have tried to shred the idea that this exists. Johnson quit knowing that a Conservative-dominated committee was reporting against him. He also knew that the Conservative majority in the House of Commons, which he created, would do the same thing. Consequently, he, Nadine Dorries, Jacob Rees Mogg, Andrea Jenkyns and others have been calling the process used by the Privileges Committee that of a Kangaroo Court.

It was no such thing. It was a proper procedure by the House to investigate a member who had misled Members from the Despatch Box.

This worries me if it is not addressed because there is no doubt that Johnson will spend the rest of his life saying that he was driven out of the House by an undemocratic process. He wasn't. Democracy - and anti-fascism - requires that it be clear that he was not.

In that case, I do hope that the members of the Committee in question take legal action against members still sitting for what they have said and libel action against those former members who have maligned them, because that would seem to be what has happened.

You cannot describe those undertaking due process in a democracy who make findings based on evidence as a kangaroo court when you are a former prime minister, minister of MP and hope to get away with it. Democracy requires that these people be brought to account. I hope that they are.